

CLAIMS

[1] A reception device which obtains a license, transmitted from a transmission device, for permitting use of a content, and uses the content based on the license,

5 wherein at least a license import period and a license ID are assigned to the license, the license import period being a period during which the license can be imported to said reception device and made available for use,

said reception device comprising:

10 a license importing unit operable to import the license transmitted from the transmission device;

a log recording unit operable to hold a license import log including the license ID and the license import period, at least until the license import period expires; and

15 a license import controlling unit operable to control importing of the license to be performed by said license importing unit, in the case where the license import log includes a license ID that is the same as the license ID of the license imported by said license importing unit.

20 [2] The reception device according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a license decrypting unit operable to decrypt an encrypted license once before the encrypted license is imported by said license
25 importing unit, and to generate a decrypted license;

a re-encrypting unit operable to re-encrypt the decrypted license using an encryption key that is different from an encryption key used for encrypting the encrypted license, and to generate a re-encrypted license; and

30 a storing unit operable to hold at least the re-encrypted license.

[3] The reception device according to Claim 2,
wherein an encryption transformation period is further
assigned to the license, the encryption transformation period being
a period during which a re-encryption can be performed by said
5 re-encrypting unit, and

said re-encrypting unit is operable to generate the
re-encrypted license by re-encrypting a license within the
encryption transformation period, and to store the re-encrypted
license into said storing unit.

10

[4] The reception device according to Claim 3,
wherein said reception device is made up of a terminal
apparatus which reproduces the content and a security module
which is operated in conjunction with said terminal apparatus,

15

said storing unit is included in said terminal apparatus,
at least one of said license importing unit, said log recording
unit, said license import controlling unit and said re-encrypting unit
is included in said security module, and

20

the encryption key used by said re-encrypting unit is a stored
encryption key that is unique to one of said security module and said
terminal apparatus.

[5] The reception device according to Claim 3, further comprising
a re-encrypted license decrypting unit operable to judge
25 whether or not the license has been re-encrypted, and to decrypt
the re-encrypted license in the case of judging that the license has
been re-encrypted.

[6] The reception device according to Claim 1, further comprising
30 a contract judging unit operable to judge whether or not a
contract regarding the license to be obtained by said license
importing unit has been made,

wherein said license importing unit is operable to judge whether or not the license import period is valid in the case where said contract judging unit judges that the contract has been made, and to permit importing of the license when judging that the license
5 import period is valid.

[7] The reception device according to Claim 6,
wherein said reception device is made up of a terminal
apparatus which reproduces the content, and a security module
10 which is operated in conjunction with said terminal apparatus,
said contract judging unit is included in said security module.

[8] The reception device according to Claim 1,
wherein, in the case where the license is imported by said
15 license importing unit, a license import log is recorded further in
said log recording unit, the license import log including a license ID
and a validity period of the imported license.

[9] The reception device according to Claim 1, further comprising
20 a license import period generating unit operable to generate
the license import period of the license import log in the case where
the license import period is not set in the license,
wherein said log recording unit is operable to hold a license
import log including the license ID and the generated license import
25 period.

[10] The reception device according to Claim 1,
wherein a license import condition is further assigned to the
license, and
30 said license import controlling unit is operable to control
importing of the license based on the license import condition.

[11] The reception device according to Claim 1, further comprising
a message presenting unit operable to present, in the case
where the license is not imported by said license import controlling
unit, at least one of the following: an indication that the license
5 cannot be imported; and a reason why the license cannot be
imported.

[12] The reception device according to Claim 1,
wherein the license import period is one of a validity period of
10 the license and a period that is set separately from the validity
period of the license.

[13] The reception device according to Claim 1,
wherein a package ID that is an identification number of a
15 package, an in-package license ID that is an identification number
included in the package, and a validity period of the license are
assigned further to the license, the package being a unit off
purchasing the content,

said log managing unit is operable to record, at a first
20 importing of the license in the package, a license import log
including the package ID, the in-package license ID, the validity
period, and an imported license ID that has been already imported,

said log managing unit is operable to update and record, at a
second and subsequent importing of the license in the package, only
25 the imported license ID of the license import log, and

said license import controlling unit is operable to control
importing of the license performed by said license importing unit, in
the case where the license import log includes a pair that is the same
as a pair of the package ID and the in-package license ID.

30 [14] A transmission device which transmits a license to a reception
device which uses a content based on the license for permitting use

of the content, said transmission device comprising:

a license generating unit operable to generate the license;

a license ID assigning unit operable to assign the license with a license ID that is an identification number;

5 a license import period assigning unit operable to assign the license with a license import period that is a period during which at least the license can be imported to the reception device and made available for use; and

a transmitting unit operable to transmit, to the reception
10 device, the license to which at least the license ID and the license import period are assigned.

[15] The transmission device according to Claim 14,

wherein the reception device comprises a re-encrypting unit
15 operable to generate a re-encrypted license by re-encrypting a decrypted license using an encryption key that is different from an encryption key used for encrypting the license,

said transmission device further comprises

an encryption transformation period assigning unit operable
20 to assign the license with an encryption transformation period that is a period during which re-encrypting of the license can be performed by the re-encrypting unit,

wherein said transmitting unit is operable to transmit, to the reception device, the license to which at least the license ID and the
25 encryption transformation period are assigned.

[16] The transmission device according to Claim 14, further comprising

a license import period assignment determining unit operable
30 to determine whether or not to assign the license import period to the license.

[17] The transmission device according to Claim 14, further comprising

a license import condition assigning unit operable to assign a license import condition to the license.

5

[18] The transmission device according to Claim 14, further comprising

a license encrypting unit operable to generate an encrypted license by encrypting the license.

10

[19] The transmission device according to Claim 14,

wherein the license import period is one of a validity period of the license and a period that is set separately from the validity period of the license.

15

[20] A security module which operates in conjunction with a terminal apparatus that uses a content based on a license,

wherein at least a license import period and a license ID are assigned to the license, the license import period being a period during which the license can be imported to the reception device and made available for use,

20

said security module comprises:

a license importing unit operable to import the license transmitted from the transmission device;

25

a log recording unit operable to hold a license import log including the license ID and the license import period, at least until the license import period expires; and

a license import controlling unit operable to control importing of the license performed by said license importing unit, in the case where the license import log includes a license ID that is the same as the license ID of the license imported by said license importing unit.

30

[21] The security module according to Claim 20, further comprising:

a license decrypting unit operable to decrypt an encrypted license once before the encrypted license is imported by said license importing unit, and to generate a decrypted license; and

a re-encrypting unit operable to re-encrypt the decrypted license using an encryption key that is different from an encryption key used for the encryption of the encrypted license, and to generate a re-encrypted license.

10

[22] The security module according to Claim 20,

wherein the terminal apparatus comprises a storing unit operable to hold at least the re-encrypted license,

an encryption transformation period is further assigned to the license, the encryption transformation period being a period during which the license can be re-encrypted by said re-encrypting unit, and

said re-encrypting unit is operable to generate the re-encrypted license by re-encrypting the license within the encryption transformation period, and to store the re-encrypted license into the storing unit.

[23] The security module according to Claim 20, further comprising

a contract judging unit operable to judge whether or not a contract regarding the license to be obtained by said license importing unit has been made,

wherein said license importing unit is operable to judge, in the case where the contract judging unit judges that the contract has been made, whether or not the license import period is valid, and to permit importing the license when the license import period is valid.

[24] The security module according to Claim 21, further comprising

a re-encrypted license decrypting unit operable to judge whether or not the license has been re-encrypted, and to decrypt the re-encrypted license in the case where the license has been re-encrypted.

[25] A digital right management system, comprising:

a transmission device operable to transmit, to a user, a license for giving permission on using a content; and

a reception device operable to obtain the license and to securely use the content based on the license,

wherein said transmission device includes:

a license generating unit operable to generate the license;

a license ID assigning unit operable to assign the license with a license ID that is an identification number;

a license import period assigning unit operable to assign the license with a license import period that is a period during which at least the license can be imported to said reception device and made available for use; and

a transmitting unit operable to transmit, to said reception device, the license to which at least the license ID and the license import period are assigned, and

said reception device includes:

a license importing unit operable to import the license transmitted from said transmission device;

a log recording unit operable to hold a license import log including the license ID and the license import period, at least until the license import period expires; and

a license import controlling unit operable to control importing of the license to be performed by the license importing unit, in the case where the license import log includes a license ID that is the

same as the license ID of the license imported by the license importing unit.

[26] The digital right management system according to Claim 25,
5 wherein said transmission device further includes

an encryption transformation period assigning unit operable to assign the license with an encryption transformation period that is a period during which re-encrypting of the license can be performed by the re-encrypting unit,

10 wherein said transmitting unit is operable to transmit, to said reception device, the license to which at least the license ID and the encryption transformation period are assigned, and

said reception device further includes:

15 a license decrypting unit operable to decrypt an encrypted license once before the encrypted license is imported by the license importing unit, and to generate a decrypted license;

20 a re-encrypting unit operable to re-encrypt the decrypted license using an encryption key that is different from an encryption key used for encrypting the encrypted license, and to generate a re-encrypted license; and

a storing unit operable to hold at least the re-encrypted license.

[27] A receiving method for use in a reception device which obtains
25 a license for giving permission on using content from a transmission device which transmits the license, and uses the content based on the license,

30 wherein at least a license import period and a license ID are assigned to the license, the license import period being a period during which the license can be imported to said reception device and made available for use,

said receiving method comprises:

a license importing step of importing the license transmitted from the transmission device;

a log recording step of holding a license import log including the license ID and the license import period, at least until the license import period expires; and

a license import controlling step of controlling importing of the license to be performed in said license importing step, in the case where the license import log includes a license ID that is the same as the license ID of the license imported in said license importing step.

[28] A transmitting method for use in a transmission device which transmits a license for giving permission on using a content, to a reception device which uses the content based on the license, said transmitting method comprising:

a license generating step of generating the license;

a license ID assigning step of assigning the license with a license ID that is an identification number;

a license import period assigning step of assigning the license with a license import period that is a period during which at least the license can be imported to the reception device and made available for use; and

a transmitting step of transmitting, to the reception device, the license to which at least the license ID and the license import period are assigned.

[29] A license importing method for use in a security module which operates in association with a terminal apparatus which uses a content based on a license,

wherein at least a license import period and a license ID are assigned to the license, the license import period being a period during which the license can be imported to said reception device

and made available for use,

said license importing method comprises:

a license importing step of importing the license transmitted from the transmission device;

5 a log recording step of holding a license import log including the license ID and the license import period, at least until the license import period expires; and

a license import controlling step of controlling importing of the license to be performed in said license importing step, in the case where the license import log includes a license ID that is the same as the license ID of the license imported in said license importing step.

[30] A program for use in a reception device which obtains a license for giving permission on using content from a transmission device which transmits the license, and uses the content based on the license,

15 wherein at least a license import period and a license ID are assigned to the license, the license import period being a period during which the license can be imported to said reception device and made available for use,

said program comprises:

a license importing step of importing the license transmitted from the transmission device;

25 a log recording step of holding a license import log including the license ID and the license import period, at least until the license import period expires; and

a license import controlling step of controlling importing of the license to be performed in said license importing step, in the case where the license import log includes a license ID that is the same as the license ID of the license imported in said license importing step.

[31] A program for use in a transmission device which transmits license for giving permission on using a content, to a reception device which uses the content based on the license, said program causing a computer to execute:

- 5 a license generating step of generating the license;
- a license ID assigning step of assigning the license with a license ID that is an identification number;
- a license import period assigning step of assigning the license with a license import period that is a period during which at least the
- 10 license can be imported to the reception device and made available for use; and
- a transmitting step of transmitting, to the reception device, the license to which at least the license ID and the license import period are assigned.

15

[32] A program for use in a security module which operates in association with a terminal apparatus which uses a content based on a license,

- wherein at least a license import period and a license ID are
- 20 assigned to the license, the license import period being a period during which the license can be imported to said reception device and made available for use, and
- said program causing a computer to execute:
- a license importing step of importing the license transmitted
- 25 from the transmission device;
- a log recording step of holding a license import log including the license ID and the license import period, at least until the license import period expires; and
- a license import controlling step of controlling importing of
- 30 the license to be performed in said license importing step, in the case where the license import log includes a license ID that is the same as the license ID of the license imported in said license

importing step.

5